Public Office, *Bow-Street, Covent-Garden.*

THE PUBLIC HUE AND CRY;

OR,

Sir John Fielding's General Preventive Plan.

SENT

To the Mayors and Chief Officers of Corporations, the Acting Magiſtrates in the Counties at large, and the Keepers of every County Gaol throughout England.

From FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, to FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1774. [No. 32.

The DESIGN of this UNDERTAKING.

TO prevent Offences, and thereby ſave the Lives of many of his Majeſty's Subjects by the ſpeedy Detection of Criminals. To check the miſchievous Effects of Luxury, and raiſe an Attention, if poſſible, to a due Subordination by ſeaſonable Perſuaſions, conveyed in Eſſays on Human Life. To advance the Rewards of the Ingenious by exhibiting their authenticated Merits to the Public. To ſtate exiſting Evils that affect the Peace and good Order of Society; to trace them to their Sources, and point out the Remedies. And as this public-ſpirited Plan is honoured by Royal Countenance, from Sentiments of the higheſt Benevolence, and is carried into Execution on the moſt diſintereſted Principles by the Editor of this Paper, to whom no poſſible Gain can ariſe, except that immenſe one of deſerving well of his Country; it has the faireſt Claim to the Approbation of the Worthy, the Aſſiſtance of the Able, and the Candour of all his Majeſty's well-diſpoſed Subjects.

J. FIELDING.

P. S. All Eſſays for the Hue and Cry are deſired to be directed to Bow-Street.

To the MAGISTRATES throughout ENGLAND.

AS many of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace decline taking out their Dedimus's, and others are deterred from acting, from Apprehenſions of Difficulties that may ariſe in this neceſſary and uſeful Office, and for the Fear of Law Suits; Sir John Fielding thinks it is his Duty to acquaint thoſe Gentlemen, that in Caſes of Doubt and Difficulty if they will tranſmit ſuch Caſe to Bow-Street in Writing, they will receive per Return of Poſt, if poſſible, a ſafe and ſatisfactory Opinion on the Matter, he being authoriſed to procure the ſame from the ableſt Hands; and to forward this public Meaſure, a Gentleman of the firſt Eminence at the Bar for Knowledge in his Profeſſion, particularly for all Matters regarding the Office of a Magiſtrate, has alſo nobly offered his Aſſiſtance without either Delay or Reward; Sir John therefore hopes the Number of Acting Magiſtrates throughout England will be increaſed, as he is convinced no Means can be ſo effectual to add additional Strength to the Civil Power can either prevent or cope with that Increaſe of Criminals, evidently ariſing from the dreadful State of the Morals of the common People, and their univerſal Contempt for Subordination.

J. FIELDING.

WHEREAS on the 20th Inſtant James Copſey, Servant to Henry Peyton, Eſq. was attacked and robbed by two Men on horſeback, about three o'Clock in the Afternoon, in the great Road from Brandon to Bury, in Suffolk, near a Village called Elden, of one Guinea, and three Shillings; and likewiſe of a plain Silver Watch, with enamelled Dial-Plate; the outſide Caſe had a ſmall Bruiſe; within the outſide Caſe was a Piece of white Catgut, ſcollaped round, with the Letters I C worked in the Middle in White; the Glaſs had a ſmall Crack; at the Bottom of the inſide Caſe W P was cut in the Silver; with a plain link Steel Chain with double Rings; a ſmall Steel Watch-Key; a ſmall Padlock-Key; a Steel Seal, with a Unicorn engraved on it.

One of the above Men was mounted on a Bay Nag-tail Gelding, about fifteen Hands high: he was dreſſed in a cocked Hat, a black ſingle curl Wig, or a Pair of falſe Curls; had on a Horſeman's light coloured Cloth Great Coat, and a white Twill Frock, ſuch as the Butchers generally ſlaughter in, booted and ſpurred, about five Feet nine or ten Inches high, dark Complexion, roundiſh Face, and not marked with the Small-Pox.——The other Man rode on a Black Mare, with a Nag-tail, about thirteen Hands and a half high: Had on a cocked Hat, light coloured lank Hair, a dark coloured frize great ſtraight Coat, buttoned up, and was booted. They were both ſeemingly under thirty Years of Age. Five Guineas Reward, over and above what is allowed by Act of Parliament, will be paid to any Perſon who ſhall bring either or both the above Offenders to Juſtice, by Pell Hugham, Eſq. Attorney at Law, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk; or, give Notice to the above Office.

WHEREAS on Saturday Night the 10th of this Inſtant December, the Houſe of Edward Rudd, Clock and Watch-Maker at Melkſham, Wilts, was broke open by ſome Perſon or Perſons unknown, and the following Goods taken away, viz. One Silver Watch, Maker John Smith Dublin, No. 2964; one ditto Maker William Wentworth, London, No. 472; and ditto Maker Jorden, London, No. forgot, out of Repair; with a black Ribband, and a Cornelian Stone ſet in Silver, Cypher J. E. one ditto Maker John Era, Melkham, No. forgot, out of repair; two other ditto, Names and No. forgot; about Forty Eight Pairs of Steel-plated Buckles; Four Pairs of Pinchbeck ditto; and ſome Children's Silver Shoe-Claſps.

Whoever will diſcover the Perſon or perſons who committed the ſaid Burglary, ſo that he, ſhe, or they, may be brought to Juſtice, ſhall on conviction, receive Ten Guineas Reward (over and above the Forty Pounds allowed by Act of Parliament) to be paid by me

EDWARD RUDD.

A MURDERER,
ESCAPED from JUSTICE,

WILLIAM MITCHELL, about thirty Years of Age, five Feet four Inches high, black Hair, rather inclined to curl, ſwarthy Complexion, black Eyes, very heavy browed, his Eye-Brows growing almoſt together, very low Forehead, which wrinkles pretty much; had on laſt Monday, an old Thickſet Frock; he was born at Lines Gate, in Dorſetſhire; and is a Labourer: Charged with murdering Ann Chappel, Servant to Henry Biſhop, Eſq. of Sydling St. Nicholas, in Dorſetſhire, the 20th of November laſt. Ten Guineas Reward is offered on his Conviction. Give Notice to the above Office, or to Sir John Smith, at Sydling St. Nicholas aforeſaid.

STOLEN from Bromſgrove, in Worceſterſhire, the 27th of June laſt, fourty-four Ells of ell-wide Flaxen Cloth, marked T C, No. 15, and on the 22d of October laſt; 21 Ells of yard-wide Flaxen Cloth, marked Mrs. Hill, &c. on the 13th of November; 21 Ells of fine ell-wide Sheeting, marked M B, No. 33. Five Guineas Reward is offered by the Owner. Give Notice to the above Office, or to Thomas Ellins, at Bromſgrove, Worceſterſhire.

STOLEN the 23d of Decembef from Southwark, a black Cart Gelding, about fifteen Hands and a half high; full aged, a ſmall Star in his Forehead, rather low in the Back and Shoulders, a ſprig Tail, and a black Mane. A Guinea Reward is offered by the Owner, Give Notice to the above Office.

STOLEN the 4th of December, out of the Stable of Henry Summerſett, of Hadleigh, in the County of Suffolk, Carrier, a Black Horſe, about thirteen Hands high, with a ſtanding Mane, a ſhort ſwitch Tail, and chaſed on each Side by the Trace, being uſed to the Collar. Alſo, ſtolen the ſame Morning, out of the Stable of Edward Cooper, of Hadleigh, in the County of Suffolk, Butcher, a Black Colt, fifteen Hands high, with a ſwitch Tail, a ſmall Star on his Forehead, riſing four Years old. Whoever can give Intelligence of either of the ſaid Horſes, ſo that they may be had again, and the Offender apprehended, ſhall receive Two Guineas Reward for each, from the Owners.

STOLEN or STRAYED, on Sunday Night, the 19th of December, 1774, near Stratford upon Avon, Warwickſhire, a Black Mare, of the Nag Kind, about fourteen Hands and a half high, full aged, with a Star in her Face, and a Snip on her Noſe, three white Legs, cut Tail, and ſome Hair rubbed off her Creſs by the Saddle, her Mane has been ſome time ſince hogged, but is now grown out, her two fore Shoes are ſteeled at the Toe, and ſhe is a little touched in the Wind; the Property of Mr. Samuel Arnold. Alſo, on the ſame Night, out of a Piece of Ground about a Mile from Stratford, a Black Gelding, of the Cart Kind, four Years old, about fifteen Hands high, his Legs are remarkable ſtrong and boney, and very hairy, his fore Legs are crooked, and under-legged with his hind Legs, has a large Blaze in his Face, thick in his Carcaſe, and rather low in his Back, with a ſhort ſwitch Tail; the Property of Mr. Thomas Halford, of Stratford. Whoever can give any Intelligence of the ſaid Mare or Gelding to Mr. Arnold, or Mr. Halford, ſo that they may be had again, if ſtrayed, ſhall be handſomely rewarded; and if ſtolen, any Perſon that will diſcover the Offender or Offenders that ſtole the ſaid Mare or Gelding, ſo that he or they be brought to Juſtice, ſhall, upon Conviction, receive Five Guineas Reward for each, if both are ſtolen. Give Notice to the above Office, or the ſaid Mr. Arnold or Nr. Halford.

A MURDERER,
ESCAPED FROM JUSTICE,

MATTHEW COCKLANE, charged with the wilful Murder of Mary Vickers, the 19th of December Inſtant, at Derby. He is about five Feet three Inches high, dark Complexion; had on a brown Coat, Leather Breeches, and round Hat, has very dark brown Hair inclined to curl; he is an Iriſhman, is about forty Years of Age, and was once a Soldier in the 33d Regiment of Foot. Give Notice to the above Office, or to the Mayor of Derby.

STOLEN the 16th Inſtant, from North-End, in Middleſex, a Bay Colt, three Years old, about fourteen Hands three Inches high, has a Star and Snip in his Face, dark Mane, and ſwitch Tail, brown Hairs in the ſetting of his Tail, is hog-backed, has a plain Head, and one Heel behind White. One Guinea Reward is offered by the Owner. Give Notice to the above Office.

STOLEN the 15th Inſtant, from Twickenham, in Middleſex, a Brown-Bay Mare, thirteen Hands and a half high, full aged, has a ſmall Star, a Wen on her right Jaw, a long ſwitch Tail. Two Guineas Reward is offered by the Owner. Give Notice to the above Office, or to Mr. Charles Barrow, at Twickenham.

STOLEN from the White Lodge in the Parish of Staveley, in the County of Derby, in the Night betwixt the 8th and 9th Inſt, a Strong Bay Mare riſing five Years old, with a large Star in the Face, her Head and Ears very plain, her Mane very black, parted in the middle, and hangs on both ſides her Neck, chafed with a Collar, her Tail has been cut but ſhe carries it low, and has loſt moſt of the Hair by ſetting which has grown again very Buſhy, with a few grey Hairs on the Top next the Rump, ſome white about the Fetlocks, and cuts a little before and behind.

Whoever can give intelligence of the ſaid Mare, ſo that ſhe may be had again, upon the conviction of the Offender, ſhall receive a Reward of One Guinea and all reaſonable Charges, by applying to Mr. Henry Smith of Mansfield or to Mr. Paul Smith at the White Lodge aforeſaid, or give Notice to the above Office.

N. B. A Bridle and an old Saddle were ſtole at the ſame Time, the Stirrup Leathers were very broad and ſtrong, and the Iron remarkably heavy.

BROKE out of Bedford Gaol, the 12th of this Inſtant December, WILLIAM CROOTE, alias BIGNALL, charged on Suſpicion of ſtealing a Mare. Had on when he went away a light brown great Coat, with white Metal Buttons, buff coloured Waiſtcoat, Leather Breeches, large round Hat, about twenty-four Years of Age, five Feet eight or nine Inches high, a Labourer, dark brown Hair, long Viſage, pale Looks, and very thin, talks very little, he lately lived at Old Warden, in Bedfordſhire. Three Guineas Reward will be paid on his being delivered to me, and all reaſonable Charges,

THOMAS HOWARD, KEEPER.

To the EDITOR of the HUE AND CRY.

SIR,

AS a lover of peace and good order, as a friend to society, and a well-wiſher to my fellow ſubjects, permit me to offer a few obſervations on the advantage of *Prevention*, to the worthy Magiſtrates, Clergy, and Freeholders, throughout this kingdom.

It was with infinite pleaſure I read in a late paper of your's, a reſolution made at the Quarter Seſſions at Winchester, by ſome of the moſt reſpectable Magiſtrates of the County of Hants, to put the 17th of Geo. II. Chap. 5. commonly called the *Vagrant Act*, into vigorous execution in their juriſdiction; for as I am exceedingly fond of preventive meaſures, I muſt confeſs that I cannot avoid imputing the increaſe of little thieves, and the ſucceſs of great ones, to the inattention of the Magiſtrates in their reſpecective diviſions to this very wholeſome law; and I verily believe there is not one act, in the whole ſtatutes at large, which coſt the legiſlature more pains than this: indeed, it is admirably contrived to ſecure the public in general from miſchief, and to remove all local nuiſances that may ariſe from idle and diſorderly perſons being harboured in particular diviſions.

What Magiſtrate is there that muſt not bluſh when he reads the ſixth ſection of this Act, and recollects that a warrant of this kind has not been executed in his diviſion for ſeveral years? My Lord Chief Juſtice Hale, that excellent man, obſerves, "That prevention of "poverty and idleneſs would do more good "than all the gibbets, whipping-poſts, and "gaols, in the kingdom." And Lord Chief Juſtice Coke, that able Lawyer, ſpeaking of Juſtice, ſays, "That ſeeing *Juſtitia eſt duplex*; "viz. *ſevere puniens, et vere præveniens*; that "is, juſtice ſeverely puniſhing whereof we have "ſpoken, and truly preventing or preventing "juſtice, *quæ adhuc deſideratur*; we will at this "place point at the other with a direction how "it may be effected.

"True it is, that we have found by woeful "experience that it is not frequent and often "puniſhment that doth prevent like offences; "*melior eſt enim juſtitia vere præveniens quam* "*severe puniens*, agreeing with the rules of the "Phyſician for the ſafety of the body *præſtat* "*cautela quam medela*; and it is a certain "rule, that *videbis ea ſæpe committi quæ ſæpe* "*vindicantur*, thoſe offences are often com-"mitted that are often puniſhed; for the fre-"quency of the puniſhment makes it ſo fa-"miliar as it is not feared; for example, "what a lamentable caſe it is to ſee ſo many "Chriſtian men and women ſtrangled on "that curſed tree of the gallows, inſomuch "as if in a large field a man might ſee to-"gether all the Chriſtians, that but in one "year, throughout England come to that un-"timely and ignominious death, if there "were any ſpark of grace or charity in him, it "would make his heart to bleed for pity and "compaſſion!"

This is a ſtriking obſervation, and cannot fail of raiſing in the minds of the humane and conſiderate, ſorrow inexpreſſible for the loſs of ſo many fellow creatures; and what muſt add to their affliction is this melancholy truth, that twelve out of twenty of the malefactors executed at Tyburn, for theſe few years paſt, have not exceeded twenty years of age. Good God! what negligence muſt there have been in the *morals*, what a want of ſenſe of religion in the *families* of the induſtrious poor! And here let me moſt reſpectfully invite the attention of the Clergy to this important object; indeed, they ſhould double their diligence on this occaſion; the evil becomes general, and the gaols throughout the kingdom are filled with youthful miſcreants—Crimes have loſt their horror, and ſhame is no force: but yet it is not too late to bring ſome of them back to their duty, would the Clergy fairly intereſt themſelves in the ſalvation of their flock. Here let me ſpeak a word or two to the good Yeomen and Freeholders of this country, who formerly bred up a hardy race of men, equally fit for the plough and the ſword, accuſtoming them to habits of induſtry and frugality, and affording them examples of religion, ſubordination, and œconomy: but, alas! where are now theſe examples? Where are theſe modeſt Yeomen, where theſe frugal Freeholders, where theſe induſtrious Labourers?

Macaroni Farmers ſupply the place of one; luxury and diſſipation have ſwept away another; and the induſtrious poor being robbed of all example, purſue the ſuggeſtions of depraved nature, and become *offenſive*, inſtead of *uſeful* members of ſociety. A melancholy picture this! but I am not ſo fooliſhly ſanguine as to expect that the manners of my countrymen, either by preaching or example, can be brought back to that ſtate of ſimplicity, or their habits to ſuch moderation and frugality, as every honeſt man would wiſh for; but I am convinced much good might be done by both; and where preaching and example fail, the Magiſtrate ſhould be called in.

Indeed, the civil power throughout England is in the ſame ſtate as it has been in for many years: and formerly, perhaps, it was of ſufficient authority to prevent or puniſh moſt of the violations of the law: but luxury, diſſipation, and extravagance, have made ſuch ſtrides, and reduced ſubordination to ſo low an ebb, that, unleſs the civil power be ſpeedily raiſed to a ſufficient degree of ſtrength to ſuppreſs the preſent evils, rapine and robbery muſt increaſe with impunity. To ſtem this torrent, it is to be hoped that Magiſtrates will be multiplied throughout every part of this kingdom; that the vagrant act will be put in execution in every diviſion four times a year, as the law directs; and that every man that poſſeſſes houſe or land, and has charge of ſervants or apprentices, will, by good examples lend their aſſiſtance to the Magiſtrates and the Clergy to carry this great plan of *prevention* into execution, to the glory of God, the honour of their country, and the ſafety and welfare of the induſtrious poor, and their families.

SENEX.

MONDAY, Dec. 26.

LONDON.

Yeſterday being Chriſtmas day there was a numerous and ſplendid appearance at Court to compliment their Majeſties, when the Knights companions of the ſeveral Orders appeared in their reſpective collars. At noon their Majeſties received the ſacrament from the hands of the Lord Biſhop of London, Dean of the Chapel, and the Biſhop of Carliſle, aſſiſted by the Biſhop of Worceſter, for the firſt time ſince his tranſlation. Their Majeſties made an offering at the Altar of a wedge of gold called the Byzant. The ſword of State was carried to and from Chapel by Lord Cathcart.

Their Majeſties were attended by the Earls of Hertford, Briſtol, and Delawar, Lords Willoughby Debroke, &c.

His Majeſty has appointed the Hon. Miſs Johnſon, daughter of Gen. Johnſon (one of the Equerries to the King) to be one of the maids of Honour to the Queen, in the room of Miſs Cathcart.

His Majeſty has ordered his annual bounty of 1000l. to be diſtributed among the poor inhabitants in the cities of London and Weſtminſter.

Yeſterday, according to annual cuſtom, the Queen's bounty of 100l. out of her private purſe was diſtributed to poor men and women, pariſhioners of St. James's.

Yeſterday the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor was at St. Paul's, attended only by the Sheriffs, and heard a ſermon preached by his Lordſhip's Chaplain.

Letters from Gibralter mention, that the Mediterranean Seas ſwarm with Algerine pirates, who have made very conſiderable prizes, eſpecially ſome Daniſh veſſels very richly laden, which they have carried into Algiers.

Saturday Mr. Batfield, lighterman, at Limehouſe, fell into the Thames, at Blackwall, and was drowned.

By the general Bill of Mortality, from December 14, 1773, to December 13, 1774, it appears there have been

Chriſtened		Buried	
Males — —	8711	Males — —	10366
Females — —	8287	Females — —	10518
In all —	16,998	In all — —	20884

Whereof have died,

Under 2 yrs of age	7742	Seventy and eighty,	974
Between 2 and 5,	2819	Eighty and ninety,	422
Five and ten, —	826	Ninety and a hundred,	53
Ten and twenty,	715	A hundred, — —	1
Twenty and thirty,	1378	A hundred and one, —	1
Thirty and forty,	1721	A hundred and two, —	6
Forty and fifty,	1838	A hundred and three,	3
Fifty and ſixty,	1630	A hundred and four,	1
Sixty and ſeventy,	1256	A hundred and ſix. —	1

Decreaſed in the Burials this year 772.

TUESDAY, Dec. 27.

LONDON.

Yeſterday morning about Nine o'clock their Majeſties ſet off from the Queen's Palace in a poſt-chaiſe and four for Kew, where they will continue till Wedneſday morning.

On Saturday in the afternoon, the Lord Chancellor finiſhed hearing petitions on cauſes at Lincoln's Inn Hall; the remaining petitions on Lunacies and Bankrupts, his Lordſhip has deferred hearing till the firſt day after the next General Seal.

Orders are ſent to the commiſſioners of the ſeveral dock-yards, to fit out as ſoon as poſſible, the men of war deſtined for the Eaſt Indies, to relieve other ſhips on that ſtation, and to take on board their full compliment of ſeamen and marines.

Laſt Saturday ſailed from Graveſend, for the Downs, the Colebrook Eaſt Indiaman, Captain Morris; and the Saliſbury, Eaſt Indiaman, Capt. Bromfield; both for Coaſt and Bay.

The Victorioſo, a Spaniſh man of war of 74 guns, is foundered off the land's end, and every ſoul on board periſhed.

Yeſterday ——— Whitebread, Eſq; Brewer, in Chiſwell-ſtreet, diſtributed his annual bounty of twenty chaldron of coals to a number of poor families in that neighbourhood.

The ravages by the ſmall-pox ſeem again on the increaſe; in the year 1770 the number of deaths by that diſorder were 1968; in the year 1771, they were 1660; in 1772, they were 3992; in 1772, they were 3992; in 1773, they were 1039; and by the yearly bill for 1774, they amount to 2479.

On Saturday the Lord Mayor gave orders to the City Marſhal and his aſſiſtants, to take into cuſtody all common proſtitutes, that may be found ſtanding in the ſtreets of this city, that they may be confined till after the holidays, to prevent their corrupting the morals of unwary youth, and ſtripping them of their money.

Extract of a letter from Derby, Dec 23.

"On Sunday laſt betwixt twelve and one o'clock, Mrs. Vickars, an old woman (relict of the late Mr. Vickars of this town) was moſt inhumanly murdered in her own chamber. An elderly woman, who lived with her as a ſervant, was in bed in the garret; ſhe ſays, that on hearing the cry of murder ſhe immediately got up, and called out of the window to alarm the neighbourhood, and attempted to go down ſtairs, but was ſtopped by a man, who came out of her miſtreſs's room, and laid hold of her; that ſhe, through fear, ſhrunk down, and begged hard he would ſpare her life; he anſwered "he did not know whether he could or not;" however, he bid her return to the garret, and threatened if ſhe made the leaſt noiſe he would abſolutely murder her. He continued ſome time in the houſe, and rifled the drawers, &c. but what booty he made is not at preſent exactly known. It is ſaid ſhe had three gold rings on her fingers, which are miſſing. The ſervant woman ſays, that ſhe durſt not ſtir after his threats; but about ſeven in the morning, perceiving ſome men going to their work, ſhe ventured down ſtairs, and called them in; when, upon going into Mrs. Vickars's room, they found her murdered in a moſt ſhocking manner; her head was almoſt cut off; the ſkull was terribly fractured, ſo that on moving her the brains appeared; her hands, fingers, &c. were cut and mangled in ſeveral places, which wounds it is ſuppoſed ſhe received in trying to extricate herſelf from the hands of the bloody villain. The Coroner's Jury was ſummoned with all poſſible ſpeed, and after an enquiry which laſted ſeveral hours, they brought in a verdict of Wilful Murder againſt a perſon or perſons unknown. Strong ſuſpicion ſoon fell upon a whiteſmith, who worked in this town as a journeyman, (but is by birth an Iriſhman;) this fellow, from various circumſtances which appeared on the evidence delivered to the Coroner's Jury, the previous enquiries he made how rich the old woman was, in particular his coming home ſoon after this bloody deed was committed, and leaving his houſe almoſt immediately, pretending he was going to work at New-Mills near Duffield (to which place he never went, but is ſuppoſed to have ſet off for Liverpool.) Theſe and many other things make it not doubted but he is the murderer. Proper perſons are in queſt of him.

"Yeſterday, upon ſearching the chamber where Mrs. Vickars lay, 300l. were found in a bag upon the teſter of the bed."

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28.
LONDON.

Extract of a letter from Paris, Dec. 16.

"The Royal Audience, at which, by the King's order, all the Princes, Dukes and Peers attended, and by invitation all the Bishops of the diocese of Paris as honorary Councellors, was extreamly respectable and brilliant. They ratified and confirmed the registry of all the edicts passed in the bed of Justice without any alteration: the pre-eminence of the Grand Council was acknowledged, and likewise the obedience due from the Parliament to the King's edicts. The edicts and declarations formed by the Ministers are for the future to be communicated to the Attorney and Solicitor General before they are brought to be registered, in order to prevent remonstrances, which always tend to the disputing of authority, and proves as disagreeable to the King as to his subjects.

"We have been upon the point of suppressing all the old Ministry; but there is one that braves all opposition.

On Tuesday sailed from Gravesend for the Downs, and will in a few days proceed from thence on her voyage for Bencoolen and China, the Rochford East-Indiaman, Capt. Bird.

A Captain of a ship arrived from Bremen, gives an account that in his passage he fell in with divers pieces of wrecks off the mouth of the River Weser, supposed to be the wrecks of some ships lost on that coast.

The Pallas, Seymour, from Lancaster to Africa, is cut off in the River Gambia by an insurrection of the slaves, and the whole crew (except the Captain and Chief Mate, who were on shore) were killed.

LONDON.
THURSDAY, Dec. 29.

Yesterday there was a Levee at St. James's; at which the principal Officers of State, Foreign Ministers, &c. were present.

After the Levee was up a Council was held; at which his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Right Hon. Lord Chancellor, Earls of Suffolk and Gower, Lord North, &c. assisted.

Yesterday the Rev. Dr. Moore, Lord Bishop of Bangor, kissed his Majesty's hand at St. James's on occasion of his promotion to that see.

Yesterday his Grace the Duke of Athol and —— Graham, Esq. were each presented to his Majesty at St. James's, on account of their respective marriage to the Hon. Miss Cathcarts, daughters to Lord Cathcart.

Lord Edward Bentick, brother to the Duke of Portland, has declared himself a candidate for the county of Nottingham, in the room of the Hon Thomas Willoughby, now Lord Middleton; and it is expected that he will be chosen without opposition.

The Earl of Egremont comes into all the vast estates, real and personal, of the late Earl of Thomond, deceased, as heir at law; what is very remarkable, his Lordship was constantly inveighing against those who died without making their last testament, and yet he himself departed at nearly the age of threescore, without leaving the least scrap of a will whatever.

The election for the county of Leicester is fixed by the High Sheriff to begin on Thursday the 12th of January.

Tuesday Robert Mayne, Esq. Banker, in Jermyn-street, brother to Sir William Mayne, Bart. and William Adam, Esq. of Lincoln's-inn, were unanimously elected Members for Gatton, in Surry.

To such a superiority over other nations are we arrived, in finishing most kinds of goods, that there is now an order in town for upwards of 100,000 ounces of wrought plate, for the use of the Great Duke of Russia.

The Hon. Thomas Howard, Member in the last Parliament, for Malmsbury, is gone to offer himself a candidate to represent St. Michael's in Cornwall, now vacant by Mr. Scawen taking his seat for the county of Surry; and it is expected he will be elected without opposition.

On Saturday last came on the election for a Representative in Parliament for the Borough of Wendover, in the room of John Adams, Esq. (who has made his election to sit for the County Borough of Carmarthen) when Henry Drummond, Esq. of Pall-Mall, was chosen without opposition.

Capt. Wood, of the Cæsar, who is arrived at Bristol from Virginia, on the 16th ult. in latitude 42, 39 North, longitude 39, 10 West, spoke with the African King, Williamson, from Antigua for London, in distress, having three dangerous leaks, and was obliged to throw part of her sugars overboard, for the preservation of the crew and vessel, as the pumps could hardly keep her free. Captain Wood gave her all the assistance he could, with the Carpenter, &c. and it is thought she will arrive safe.

Committed from the Public Office, in Bow street, during the last three weeks.

Alexander D'Aubigni, for stealing a quantity of apparel from John Price and others; William Matthews, for stealing a quantity of apparel, the property of Samuel Lyon; Thomas Tucker, for stealing a pair of boots, the property of George Hiles; John Burdett, Robert Clark, Joseph Davis, Thomas Chalkley and William Thomas, for divers footpad robberies; William Allen for stealing a quantity of Tallow the property of Sampson Rainsforth; Patrick Matthews, for stealing a quantity of apples, the property of Elizabeth Brasset; James Mason and Richard Flint, for stealing thirteen quarters of Linseed, the property of Godfrey Thornton, Esq. William Newland, for stealing six heifers, the property of Thomas Chambers; Richard Banfield and Abraham Dugard, for assaulting Jonathan Bruce, in the street with a drawn knife, with intent to rob him; William Penston, for stealing a horse, the property of Christopher Askwith; Hannah Jacobs, for stealing a box and a quantity of Jewels, the property of David d'Aguilar; William James Chesterfield, for picking John Warricker's pocket of a watch; Edward Botsford, for robbing Thomas Roberts in the street, of his watch; Edward Shean for stealing ribbons in the shop of Elizabeth Harris; Thomas Horner, for stealing five chair covers, the property of John Cliff; Thomas Lambert, for stealing two crown pieces, the property of Mary Smout.

Committed during the last three weeks.

To Bedford Gaol, John Betts, for burglary; he is twenty-two years of age, five feet five inches high, a Smith by trade, and was born at Maulden in Bedfordshire. John Jackson, for felony, born near Biggleswade, aged fourteen, four feet eight inches high.

To Lancaster Gaol, John Widdowson and Ann Widdowson, for felony; John is a Leicestershireman, aged thirty-six years, five feet six inches high; Ann is thirty-two years of age, was born at Manchester. John Dewhurst, for felony, born in Manchester, aged twenty-four, five feet four inches high. Samuel Leyland, for burglary, born near Wigan, five feet nine inches high, aged twenty-one, a Smith by trade. John Atkinson, for uttering counterfeit silver; he was born in Stainland, Yorkshire, five feet six inches high, aged forty. William Deane, for maiming a horse; he is a Maltster by trade, six feet high, aged twenty seven.

To Winchester Gaol, Aaron Smith, for house-breaking; he is five feet three inches high, aged twenty-five, was born at Blendworth, and is a Labourer. John Wakeley, for felony; he is five feet eleven inches high, aged thirty-seven, born at Broughton, Wilts. William Goodall, Joseph Goodall, and Elias Goodall, for sheep-stealing. Simon Lazarus, for horse-stealing; he is a Jew, aged twenty-nine, and five feet two inches high.

To York Castle, Thomas Richardson, for felony, born at West Haddesley in Yorkshire, aged twenty-seven years, five feet six inches high, a Smith by trade. Joseph Hither, for felony aged twenty-two, five feet six inches high, born at Bolton, in Yorkshire, William Laws, for house-breaking, born at Caithness, in Scotland, aged twenty, five feet five inches high; William Bean for highway robbery, aged thirty-seven, near six feet high, born at Askwith in Yorkshire.

To Lincoln Castle, John Lyon, for highway robbery, born at Gosbertown, in Lincolnshire, aged twenty-seven, five feet eight inches, a Labourer.

To Worcester Castle, Thomas Hawkins, for highway robbery; he is a Labourer, born in Staffordshire, five feet eight inches high; Evan Vaughan, for felony, born at Brecknock five feet six inches high.

To Shrewsbury Gaol; Mary Lofeat, for horse-stealing, aged 30, was born in Norfolk; Joseph Skidmore, for murder; he is a middle-sized man and kept a public-house at Stourbridge.

To Norwich Castle, Alice Crown, for felony; George Swain, for felony, he is about five feet six inches high, aged eighteen; Robert Lovick, for treasonably diminishing the King's silver coin, he is aged fifty, five feet seven inches high; Thomas Wallage, for uttering counterfeit silver money; he is fifty six years of age, and five feet five inches high; Jonathan Friar, for horse stealing, aged twenty-one, five feet nine inches high, a Labourer; John Shelton, for felony, aged twenty-five, and five feet seven inches high.

To Oxford Castle, John Corderey and Benjamin Druce, for felony; Corderey is forty-two years of age, born at West Wycombe, Bucks, five feet nine inches high, Druce is twenty-seven years of age, five feet eight inches high, by trade a Blacksmith, he was born at Amersham; William Withers, for felony, aged twenty-eight five feet ten inches high born at Stanlake, in Oxfordshire; James Wiggins, for felony, born at Brizenorton, aged twenty-five five feet three inches high? James Smith, for picking pockets, aged twenty-two, five feet eight inches high, born at Burford, in Oxfordshire, has been a servant.

To Oakham Gaol; William Pridmore, for felony, aged thirty-one, five feet seven inches and a high, was born at Harringworth, in Northamptonshire, and is a Labourer.

To Marlborough Gaol, as a vagrant, Thomas Cooke, charged with going about the country and collecting money on false pretences. He is about twenty-one years of age, five feet four inches high, of a sandy complexion, and sharp countenance, a long nose rather high in the middle, and though broad at the end yet somewhat turned up, has some marks of the small-pox; wears the foretop of his hair over a scratch wig; had on a rough cinnamon colour surtout coat, a close-bodied brown coat, pretty much worn, crimson cotton velvet waistcoat, claret coloured cloth breeches, with metal buttons; Francis Taylor, for the same offence; he is five feet ten or eleven inches high, thin made, sharp featured, of a light complexion, wears his own hair tied behind; had on a rough dark coloured surtout coat, a blue lapelled coat, a scarlet lapelled waistcoat, the lapells faced with green, gold vellum button-holes, and leather breeches; had in his possession a silver watch, enamelled plate, inscribed Blundell, Dublin, maker's name, D. Kidderden, London, No. 597.

OBSERVATION.

If the Keepers of the County Gaols continue punctually to make a weekly return to the above office of the names and descriptions of the offenders committed to their charge, it must be the means of recovering many prisoners that have broke Gaol, and of detecting many notorious criminals who have committed offences in the counties from whence they have escaped; and if the Post-Masters in the different parts of England pay an exact attention to the directions they have received from the Hon. the Post-Master General, in sending an immediate account of every robbery that comes to their knowledge, with the best description of the offenders, the whole state of criminal matters that arise within the course of the week, will be contained in this Paper, the Public Advertiser, and the Gazetteer, to which therefore we refer Pawnbrokers, Silversmiths, Dealers in Cloaths, and Horse Dealers, to prevent their buying or receiving stolen goods or horses; for as it is natural for offenders who escape justice in the country to fly towards London for shelter, such occurrences, together with those that arise in town, are advertised in these two daily papers; and as it is also as common for offenders, who escape justice in this metropolis, to fly into the country for shelter, these occurrences are constantly advertised in the HUE and CRY: by these reciprocal methods escapes must be rendered difficult, the evil-disposed deterred from involving themselves and families in distress; the number of capital offenders lessened, and the lives of many of his Majesty's subjects thereby happily saved, to the joy of humanity, and the honour of civil policy.

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